

CONFIDENTIAL

Journal - Office of Legislative Counsel
Monday - 26 February 1973

Page 2

25X1

4. [] Talked with Rady Johnson, Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), and Marshall Wright, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, about the letter the Director has received from Senator James Abourezk (D., S. Dak.) raising a number of questions about Air America operations and proposed Government contracts with Air America and other airlines for Southeast Asia. I told them it was our understanding that similar letters were also sent to Defense and State but neither Johnson nor Wright have seen them. Copies of proposed replies from the Agency and Air America were LDXd to them for their information and guidance in the event they do receive similar inquiries.

25X1

25X1

6. [] Picked up from Bud Kendrick, on the staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, several copies of the February 1973 Moose and Lowenstein report on the Philippines and Korea

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

STAT

Approved For Release 2005/11/21 : CIA-RDP75B00380R000400100045-2

Next 2 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2005/11/21 : CIA-RDP75B00380R000400100045-2

73-973

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

OGC 73-0310

February 16, 1973

Mr. James Schlesinger
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Schlesinger:

It has been reported in the press that Air America will be continuing its role in Vietnam after April 1, 1973. For example, an article in the February 9th issue of the New York Times stated that, "one of the largest companies working on contract for the Agency for International Development is Air America, a private airline that is said to have been started by the Central Intelligence Agency and which does work for the United States government in Laos. The airline is expected to enlarge its operations in South Vietnam as the last American military planes leave." I am curious about these reports, and I would appreciate it if you would answer the following questions:

- 1) How many United States nationals, third-country nationals or Vietnamese are presently employed by Air America in South Vietnam? How many contracts with United States government agencies does Air America hold in South Vietnam, and what is the dollar value of each contract? What functions does Air America perform under each contract?
- 2) By the end of F.Y. '73, June 30, 1973, how many U.S. nationals, third-country nationals, and Vietnamese will Air America be employing in South Vietnam? How many contracts with U.S. government agencies will Air America hold in South Vietnam at that time, and what will be the dollar value of each contract? What functions will Air America perform under each contract?

Page Two
Mr. James Schlesinger
February 16, 1973

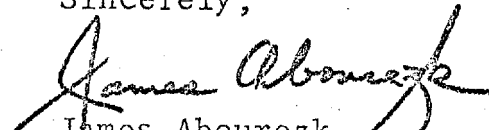
3) How many U.S. nationals, third-country nationals, and Vietnamese do you expect that Air America will employ in South Vietnam by the end of F.Y. '74? How many contracts with U.S. government agencies do you expect that Air America will hold in South Vietnam by the end of F.Y. '74, and what do you expect that the dollar value of each contract will be? What functions do you expect that Air America will perform under each contract?

4) By the end of F.Y. '73, will the Defense Department, Agency for International Development, the United States Embassy or the Central Intelligence Agency be letting out contracts to any other American-owned, third-country-owned, or Vietnamese-owned air lines for South Vietnam?

5). Will Air America or any other U.S. funded company be supplying arms, ammunition, materiel, food or medical supplies to ARVN paramilitary units, police units, or irregular units similar to the CIA's "Secret Army" in Laos?

I will look forward to receiving your prompt and comprehensive response to these questions.

Sincerely,


James Abourezk
United States Senator

DDO



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Legislative Counsel

Washington, D. C. 20505

Telephone: [REDACTED]

26 February 1973

TO: Honorable Rady A. Johnson
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
(Legislative Affairs)
Washington, D. C.

With reference to [REDACTED] call to you today, we feel it is important that we make an immediate response to Senator Abourezk's letter. Drafts of letters from Air America and this Agency which will be sent out tomorrow morning are attached for your information and guidance in the event you receive a similar inquiry from Senator Abourezk.

[REDACTED]
John M. Maury
Legislative Counsel

STAT

STAT

STAT